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Date: February 25, 2004 Time Sent:

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Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/717,215

MESSAGE:

Attached is a RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY AND REQUEST FOR REJOINDER OF THE  
DEPENDENT CLAIMS for the above-referenced application.

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WDC99 884415-1.049657. 0844 FAX OPERATOR	TIME CONFIRMED	CONFIRMED BY

AFTER SENDING RETURN THIS FAX TO: L Froehling at

#870614

Docket No.: 49657-844

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Akira OHTA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/717,215

Filed: November 22, 2000

: Customer Number: 20277

: Confirmation Number: 9517

: Group Art Unit: 2817

: Allowed: November 28, 2003

: Examiner: Joseph Chang

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**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY AND REQUEST FOR  
REJOINDER OF THE DEPENDENT CLAIMS**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Notice of Allowability mailed on November 28, 2003, claims 1-6, 8, 33-38 and 40 are allowed. In the Examiner's Amendment attached to the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner has cancelled claims 7, 9-32, 39, 41-67 previously withdrawn from consideration.

However, claims 7, and 9-14 are dependent from allowed claim 1, and claims 39, and 41-44 are dependent from allowed claim 33. Therefore, the cancellation of these claims is improper.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.141(a), the rejoinder of the claims 7, 9-14, 39 and 41-44 in the present application is respectfully requested.

WDC99 881602-1.049657.0844

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

  
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